



*D. Lawrence*  
*Suppl. Patent B*  
*12.12.02*  
**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/955,554  
Filing Date: September 18, 2001  
Applicant: Vann, et al.  
Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
Examiner: To Be Assigned  
Title: MATRIX STORAGE AND DISPENSING SYSTEM  
Attorney Docket: 9692-000008/COA

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 11 2002  
TC 1700

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Repln. Ref: 04/17/2003 EEKUBAY1 0010080000  
DAR:080750 Name/Number:09955554  
FC: 9204 \$456.00 CR

**SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Adjustment date: 04/17/2003 EEKUBAY1  
12/10/2002 NMOHAMM1 00000007 09955554  
01 FC:1202 -288.00 OP  
02 FC:1201 -168.00 OP

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claim as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A system for storing and dispensing a plurality of reagents, comprising:

an addressable array of reagent dispensers;

a gate mechanism at a lower outlet region of each dispenser, each gate mechanism being independently operable between (i) an open condition permitting

12/10/2002 NMOHAMM1 00000007 09955554

01 FC:1202 288.00 OP  
02 FC:1201 168.00 OP